

Submission
No 49

**INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE PHASE-OUT OF
AUSTRALIAN LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS BY SEA ON NEW
SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 20 September 2024

Partially
Confidential

I am a concerned citizen and animal lover. I fully support the phase out of live sheep exports. I have spoken to many friends, family and strangers over the months and years and have found that my community as a whole is also supportive of the ban. The main concern being animal welfare. Animals are sentient beings that deserve the right to be free from the harms of the live export industry. Too many times we have seen the industry put animals in the worst possible positions, causing them great suffering. From the long stressful voyages to ship accidents causing drownings and injuries, to rough handling, dehydration and illness of animals to name a few. There is also no control or accountability once animals reach an international destination and in most cases the handling of these beings would never be tolerated in in this country. In fact, we would be prosecuting for animal cruelty. Australia is supposed to be a leading force for change, but we cannot realistically mature and evolve as a nation if we cannot even treat animals as feeling individuals and break free from archaic practices. The industry and its supporters cannot be trusted with the welfare of animals and have proven it time and time again. Many industries have come and gone, and people have moved on, evolved or changed. This is not a new concept. There are ample opportunities in this country to make an income including changing to plant-based food and lab grown meat production. The Labor Government promised to ban live exports, people voted for this. A sigh of relief was made when a phasing out date was put forward and now we are looking at a backwards step? The people have spoken, the Government needs to honour its word.